

Name: Brianna Dunlap
Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee
Hearing Date: March 8, 2022
Testimony Submitted: March 5, 2022

Bill Number: [S.B. NO.17 - An Act Prohibiting an Institution of Higher Education from Withholding Transcripts.](#)

"My name is Brianna and I am a member of the Student Loan Fund Borrowers Collective (SLF). SLF is organizing to develop leaders and change the predatory systems of student debt and higher education financing that disproportionately impact people of color and first-generation students. We are nonprofit leaders, artists, truck drivers, lawyers, makeup artists, social workers, chefs, teachers, and more, working collectively to make the necessary change.

There is already a real mental toll - a true emotional weight - placed on students with student debt. The layered socio-economic issues associated with taking massive loans at a young age are exasperated by the games that colleges can play with students who worked hard to achieve their degrees. No transcripts should be withheld from students who are actively trying to better themselves, their families, and their communities. Withholding transcripts stops students from completing their education and graduates from getting jobs needed to make a living. Let this practice cease so that students can at least be less burdened as they move through the higher education system. I support SB NO17 - An Act Prohibiting an Institution of Higher Education from Withholding Transcripts."

-Brianna Dunlap, attended Saint Joseph University, graduated with Bachelor's degree from CCSU. Masters from CCSU.